

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/021,621	HORVITZ ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	PELING A. SHAW	2444	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 04/21/2010.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-22 and 40-85.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>20100712</u> . |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>03/31/10,03/31/10</u> | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

/Peling A Shaw/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2444

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DETAILED ACTION

1. Amendment received on 04/21/2010 has been entered into record. Claims 1, 41 and 55-85 are amended. Claims 23-39 are cancelled. Claims 1-22 and 40-85 are currently pending.
2. Amendment received on 11/21/2007 was entered into record. Claims 1, 41 and 55 were amended.
3. Applicant's submission filed on 05/14/2007 was entered. Claims 1, 23, 40-41, 55 and 78-81 were amended.
4. Amendment received on 07/11/2005 was entered. Claims 1, 13, 23, 25, 40-41, 55 and 78 were amended.

Priority

5. This application claims benefit of 60/255,016 on 12/12/2000. The filing date is 12/12/2001.

Examiner's Amendment

6. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

7. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Edmund J. Walsh (reg. no. 32,950) on 07/12/2010.

8. The application has been amended against applicant submitted claim set dated 04/21/2010 as follows (only examiner amended claims are shown):

IN THE CLAIMS

55. (Currently amended) An adaptive prioritization and routing system providing a user interface, comprising:

a display device;

one or more controls and displays on the display device to at least one of acquire user preferences, inspect behavior, and guide learning and decision policies of the adaptive prioritization and routing system, wherein the user preferences includes a user defined amount of time of user inactivity of a message retrieval device; and

a user interface associated with the one or more controls and displays that facilitates inspection, control and learning associated with alerting and routing prioritized messages, wherein the user interface holds back messages from delivery to the message retrieval device when inactivity exceeding the user defined amount of time [[of]] is detected.

Reasons for Allowance

9. Claims 1-22 and 40-85 are allowed as amended above.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The closest prior arts of record issued to Smith, et al., (US 6,463,462 B1), Juha Takkinen (CAFE: A Conceptual Model for Managing Information in Electronic Mail), Wright, et al. (US 6,078,568 A), Cooper, et al., (US 6757362 A), Matthew Marx (CLUES: Dynamic Personalized Message Filtering), Eggleston et al. (US 6101531 A), Jonathan Isaac Helfman et al. (Ishmail: Immediate Identification of Important Information), Abu-Hakima (US 6499021 B1) and Eric, et al. (The Lumiere Project) fail to teach or suggest "a system providing a user interface to manage electronic messages, the system comprising: a display device; providing a priority component that assigns a respective priority value to one or more messages; one or more display objects on the display device, the one or more display objects each being associated with delivery of a respective message of the one or more messages, and the one or more display objects each having an appearance selected based at least in part on a priority value of the respective message; and one or more controls on the display device to receive user inputs that adapt the user interface to one or more preferences of a user, the one or more inputs includes at least one or more user preferences for associating a predetermined priority with a communication channel, wherein the priority component assigns a priority value to a voice message based upon the predetermined priority for the communication channel from which the voice message is received" in combination with all the elements of each independent claim as argued by Applicant (see 5th paragraph on page 13 through 2nd paragraph on page 14, 4th paragraph on page 14 through 1st paragraph on page 15, 3rd through 5th paragraphs on page 15, 6th paragraph on page 15 through

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3rd paragraph on page 16, 4th paragraph on page 16 through 3rd paragraph 17 of current Amendment). Applicant has amended substantially on independent claims, i.e. claims 1, 41, 55, and 78. Examiner has reviewed the claim rejections as per Office Action mailed 01/21/2010 and applied prior arts with respect to the currently amended and claimed invention. Examiner has performed a further search on the claim set with respected to the amended claim language. Examiner has determined that together the prior arts cited above are still most close ones and together they do not fully disclose the limitation combination with reasonable obviousness and/or motivation. Independent claims 1, 40, 41, 55, and 78 are to be allowed.

The dependent claims further limit the independent claims and are considered allowable on the same basis as the independent claims as well as for the further limitations set forth. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Conclusion

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peling A. Shaw whose telephone number is (571) 272-7968. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00 - 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William C. Vaughn can be reached on (571) 272-3922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Peling A Shaw/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2444